April 22, 2022

Top News

Discontinuation of COVID-19 Testing and Screening

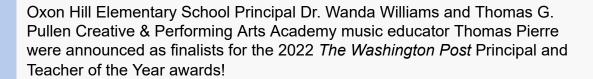


Since returning to schools and offices full time in September 2021, testing for unvaccinated staff and randomized student testing have been critical in keeping positive COVID-19 rates as low as possible. We are pleased to report that positivity rates are now low enough to end our COVID-19 testing program. The final week of COVID-19 testing will be April 25.

Beginning the week of May 2:

- Unvaccinated staff will not be tested on a weekly basis at schools, bus lots or central office hubs.
- Capital Diagnostics and CIAN Diagnostics will not be conducting randomized student testing and screening.

#PGCPSProud: Educators Named Among Best in Region



Read more

"Where Stories Come Alive!"



For **School Library Month**, check out the many facets of media class at <u>Robert Goddard Montessori School</u> and hear from students and Media Specialist Arnor Galang about traditional and tech joys of reading!

Save the Date: College & Career Signing Day 2022



Join us Monday, May 2 for College and Career Signing Day as we kick off graduation season and celebrate Class of 2022 seniors' plans to embark on college and careers! View a video surprise on the pgcps.org homepage at 10 a.m.

Deadline Today: 2022 Summer School Positions



2022 summer school job opportunities are now available. Details on each summer school program can be found by visiting the 2022 Summer Programs Listing & Details. **The application deadline is Friday, April 22.** Please refer to Bulletin P-0-22 for more information. Questions? summerschool@pgcps.org.

Spotlight

Spotlight: Crossland High School Culinary Arts



Crossland High School was among 10 teams nationwide to take part in a culinary competition at the Johnson Space Center in Houston where students were challenged to prepare meals for astronauts heading into space!

Watch

Announcements

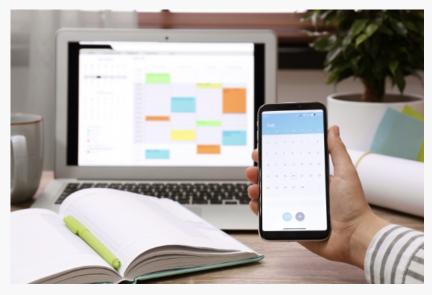
#TeachWithUs Diversity Series



We are seeking diverse educators to support our LatinX school community! Know a friend who may be interested in teaching with PGCPS? Invite them to join us **Tuesday**, **April 26** to learn more.

Register

Last Day of School



The last day of school for students will be June 23 with a two-hour early dismissal. The last official day for teachers will be June 24. This is an optional day for teachers if all end of year responsibilities have been completed. Support staff who worked on March 7 — which was previously scheduled as a non-duty day — may leave two hours early with students June 22 and June 23. This includes the following staff:

- Food services
- Interpreters
- Paraprofessionals
- Parent Engagement Assistants (PEAs)
- Itinerant Special Education Assistants
- In-school suspension monitors
- Success coaches assistants
- Safety and security assistants

In addition, bus drivers and attendants who worked on March 7 will be compensated for the additional duty day. This school year, PGCPS used two inclement weather days (January 3-4) and one two-hour early dismissal day due to forecasted snow (January 28).

Student Transfer Season

Student transfer requests for the 2022-23 school year will be accepted from Monday, April 25 through Friday, May 13. Parents and guardians of current students may submit transfer requests electronically through the SchoolMax Family Portal. Portal access is limited to parents and legal guardians with an active SchoolMax Family Portal account (username and password).

Parents and legal guardians of former PGCPS students can request a transfer

form by contacting Student. Transfers@pgcps.org or 301-567-8751. Students entering Kindergarten who are not currently enrolled in a PGCPS PreK or Early Childhood Center (ECC) program must request a transfer form. Transfer requests to schools that exceed state-rated capacity will not be accepted.

Help Set Priorities for Education



The Maryland State Board of Education and the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) invites Maryland residents to complete the Strategic Planning Survey. The survey will help guide implementation of the multi-year strategic plan to transform public education.

Take the Survey

Weigh In on Proposed Boundary Changes

Families and community members will now have more time to weigh in on proposed school boundary scenarios. The project timeline has been extended to allow for the appointment of new Board of Education members in districts 5 and 6 with adequate time to review community feedback.

A summary of community engagement for the Comprehensive School Boundary Initiative is available online, including information about the engagement activities to date and results from the online survey on the three boundary scenarios.

More Information

Teacher Talk: "Self-Care = Self-Preservation"



With the rapidly shifting landscape in education, hear from fellow educators on what is working with substituting, what can be changed and what the future of substituting can be!

Register

Vote Now for PGCPS People's Choice Awards



Voting for the People's Choice Awards for the PGCPS Film Festival is open through April 30! Click on the categories at the top of the webpage to view each entry in that category and vote for your favorites! The virtual awards ceremony for the 10th Annual Film Festival will be held on Tuesday, May 10 at 10 a.m.

Vote Now

Register

Explore Teaching STEM



Join the University of Maryland (UMD) for an online, asynchronous course, "Step 1- Inquiry Approach to Teaching STEM," from May 18 - June 29. Paraprofessionals, career changers and high school students are invited to be a part of this experience. The course will provide an opportunity to explore teaching as a career, and plan and teach an inquiry-based science or mathematics lesson. The cost of the course is only \$35.

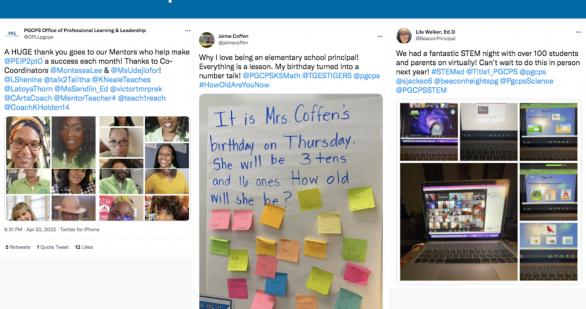
Learn More

ICYMI: In Case You Missed It

Leadership Development Program: Apply Beginning May 2

Strong leaders build strong communities, and PGCPS believes by creating strong leaders, we advance the work in our Equity Strategic Plan. The Office of Professional Learning and Leadership **Aspiring Leaders Program for Student Success (ALPSS)** is designed to develop a diverse pipeline of emerging leaders to impact teaching and learning through transformational leadership. Session presenters will be members of the Executive Cabinet. The application window is May 2-13. Please contact Dr. Melissa Wilson at Melissa.ellis@pgcps.org with questions.

#TeamPGCPS Paparazzi



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COMMENTS AND IDEAS: communications@pgcps.org